

## AP-NORC poll: Many support Jackson court confirmation

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — More Americans approve than disapprove of Ketanji Brown Jackson's confirmation to the Supreme Court as its first Black female justice, a new poll finds, but that support is politically lopsided. And a majority of Black Americans — but fewer white and Hispanic Americans — approve of her confirmation. Overall, 48% of Americans say they approve and 19% disapprove of Jackson's confirmation to the high court according to the new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. The remaining 32% of Americans hold no opinion. Jackson's nomination fulfilled a campaign promise by President Joe Biden to name a Black woman to the court if given the opportunity.

Continued on next page



President Joe Biden listens as Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson speaks during an event on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, April 8, 2022, celebrating the confirmation of Jackson as the first Black woman to reach the Supreme Court.

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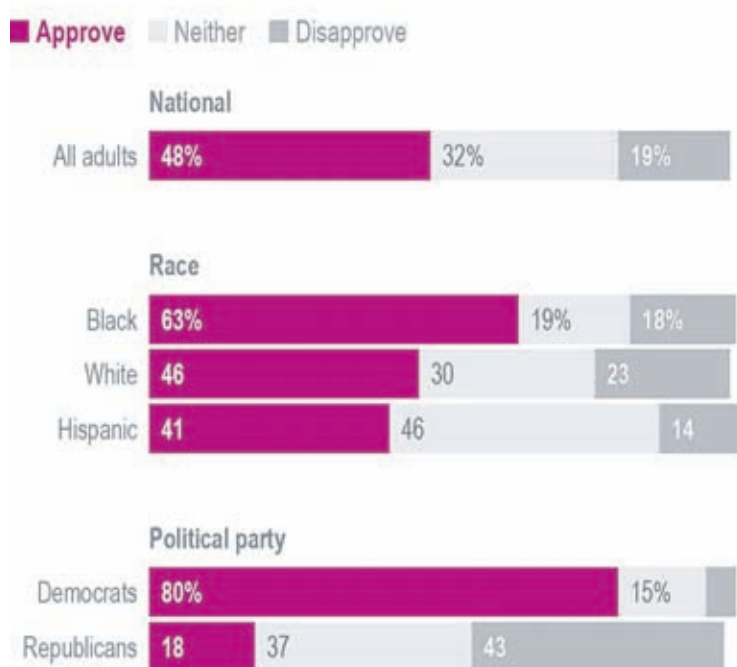
The findings suggest the confirmation did more to energize Biden's Democratic base than it did to energize Republicans in opposition, despite vocal resistance from some GOP lawmakers who were largely united in voting against her April 7 confirmation. Three Republican senators broke with their party to confirm her with a 53-47 tally.

Eighty percent of Democrats and only 18% of Republicans approve of Jackson's confirmation to replace retiring Justice Stephen Breyer. Among Republicans, though, fewer than half — 43% — say they disapprove of the Harvard law graduate's confirmation. An additional 37% of Republicans hold neither opinion. Only 5% of Democrats disapprove; 15% say they hold neither opinion. It's not unusual for a relatively high share of Ameri-

## Majorities of Black Americans, Democrats support Jackson's confirmation

A new AP-NORC poll finds more Americans approve than disapprove of Ketanji Brown Jackson's confirmation to the Supreme Court. Democrats are about four times as likely to approve as Republicans.

Do you approve or disapprove of Ketanji Brown Jackson's confirmation to the Supreme Court?



Results based on interviews with 1,085 U.S. adults conducted April 14-18. The margin of error is  $\pm 3.9$  percentage points for the full sample.

Source: AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

AP

cans to express no opinion about a justice's confirmation. In October 2018, after the vote to confirm Justice Brett Kavanaugh following a rancorous confirmation marked by sexual assault allegations, 35% approved, 43% disapproved and 20% said they held neither opinion. And in October 2020, before the vote to confirm conservative Justice Amy Coney Barrett to the seat of the late liberal Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 30% were in favor to her being confirmed, 35% were opposed and 34% said they held neither opinion.

Jackson, 51, a federal appeals court judge in Washington, will join the court this summer when Breyer steps down. She will become the third Black person to sit on the court, following the late Justice Thurgood Marshall and current Justice Clar-

ence Thomas. The court will for the first time have four women members and two Black members while white men will make up a minority of the court.

"It has taken 232 years and 115 prior appointments for a Black woman to be selected to serve on the Supreme Court of the United States," Jackson said in remarks at the White House after her confirmation. "But we've made it. We've made it, all of us."

Kimberly Brown, 41, is among those who approve of Jackson's confirmation. Brown, who lives in New York and works in health care, is an independent who leans Democratic and called Jackson's confirmation "historic."

"I just feel like it's a historic moment to see a Black woman nominated, and then to also be confirmed

to the Supreme Court, which has never been done," said Brown, who is Black. "I'm just excited that she's able to take all of the knowledge and skills that she's developed over the course of her career and education and apply it ... in a seat on the highest court."

Brown said she watched some of Jackson's hearings and felt Jackson "presented herself really well," answering questions from lawmakers thoughtfully and thoroughly.

Jackson's hearings were marked by intense lines of questioning from some Republican senators ranging from her sentencing record on child pornography cases to her views on teaching books on critical race theory in the classroom.

The poll shows about half of Americans, including about a quarter of Republicans, disapprove of how GOP senators handled the confirmation process; only about 2 in 10 of Americans approve. Nearly twice as many Americans approve of how Senate Democrats handled the process. Still, about a third of Americans say they don't have an opinion either way for Republicans or Democrats.

Unlike Brown, Republican Gail Thompson, 77, of Washington state, said she felt Jackson was evasive in answering Republican lawmakers' questions. Thompson, a retired medical assistant, said she also believed Jackson is "soft on crime."

"I don't agree with what she's done," said Thompson, who is white. "And I'm really sad that she's been appointed."

Brown and Thompson reflect not only the partisan divide but also something of a racial divide over Jackson's confirmation. Among Black Americans, 63% approve and 18% disapprove of Jackson's confirmation.

Black voters were among the keys to Biden's victory in the 2020 presidential election — about 9 in 10 supported him, according to AP VoteCast — but his approval rating among Black Americans has dipped substantially in AP-NORC polls conducted since his inauguration.

Approval of Jackson's confirmation is lower among white and Hispanic Americans, at 46% and 41%, respectively, though similar percentages across racial and ethnic groups disapprove. Many white and Hispanic Americans say they hold neither opinion.

Overall, more Americans say they approve than disapprove of how Biden handled Jackson's confirmation, 42% to 33%. About 8 in 10 Democrats approve; about two-thirds of Republicans disapprove.

Biden's immediate predecessor, Donald Trump, nominated three conservative justices to the court — Neil Gorsuch, Kavanaugh and Barrett — giving the court a 6-3 conservative advantage, which Jackson's appointment will not change. Biden's one-time boss, former President Barack Obama, nominated two justices — Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor, who is the court's first Latina justice.

The new poll shows confidence in the Supreme Court remains low, according to the poll, but is similar to what it was in a February AP-NORC poll. Eighteen percent of Americans say they have a great deal of confidence in the high court, and 54% have some confidence. An additional 27% say they have hardly any confidence.

Republicans and Democrats have similar levels of confidence in the court. Views also are similar across race and ethnicity groups. □

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# Judge finds Donald Trump in contempt in New York legal fight

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A New York judge found former President Donald Trump in contempt of court and set in motion \$10,000 daily fines Monday for failing to adequately respond to a subpoena issued by the state's attorney general as part of a civil investigation into his business dealings.

Judge Arthur Engoron said a contempt finding was appropriate because Trump and his lawyers hadn't shown they had conducted a proper search for records sought by the subpoena.

"Mr. Trump, I know you take your business seriously, and I take mine seriously," Engoron said in a Manhattan courtroom that was packed with reporters, but absent of Trump. "I hereby hold you in civil contempt and fine you \$10,000 a day" until the terms of the subpoena are met.

New York Attorney General Letitia James, a Democrat, had asked the court to hold Trump in contempt after he failed to produce any documents to satisfy a March 31 court-imposed deadline to meet the terms of the subpoena.

Trump, a Republican, has been fighting James in court over her investigation, which he has called a politically motivated "witch hunt." During oral arguments Monday, Trump attorney Alina Habba said that "Donald Trump does not believe he is above the law."

Habba said in a statement



Former President Donald Trump speaks at a rally at the Delaware County Fairgrounds, Saturday, April 23, 2022, in Delaware, Ohio, to endorse Republican candidates ahead of the Ohio primary on May 3.

Associated Press

that the ruling will be appealed.

"We respectfully disagree with the court's decision. All documents responsive to the subpoena were produced to the attorney general months ago," she said. James has been conducting a lengthy investigation into the Trump Organization, the former president's family company, centering around what she has claimed is a pattern of misleading banks and tax authorities about the value of his properties.

"Today, justice prevailed," James said in a release after Engoron's ruling. "For years, Donald Trump has tried to evade the law and stop our lawful investigation

into him and his company's financial dealings. Today's ruling makes clear: No one is above the law."

The contempt finding by the judge came despite a spirited argument by Habba, who insisted repeatedly that she went to great lengths to comply with the subpoena, even traveling to Florida to ask Trump specifically whether he had in his possession any documents that would be responsive to the demand. The judge, though, criticized the lack of detailed explanation in the Trump team's formal response to the subpoena, telling Habba: "You can't just stand here and say I searched this and that."

And after saying he felt "like there's an 800-pound gorilla in the room here," he asked why the response to the subpoena didn't include an affidavit from Trump. Habba noted that Trump does not send emails or text messages and has no work computer "at home or anywhere else." She described the search for documents as "diligent."

"The contempt motion is inappropriate and misleading," she said. "He complied. ... There are no more documents left to produce by President Trump." She also derided the James probe as a "political crusade" and "truly a fishing expedition," saying Trump and his companies had

turned over more than 6 million documents and paperwork related to 103 Trump entities for an eight-year period.

"We've turned over everything as fast as possible. This is a waste of judicial resources," Habba added.

She also defended Trump's character, saying: "My client is an honest person much to the dismay of certain people in this room."

Trump spokespeople did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Investigators for James have said in court filings that they uncovered evidence that Trump may have misstated the value of assets like golf courses and skyscrapers on his financial statements for more than a decade.

At the hearing, Assistant Attorney General Andrew Amer said the investigation was being hampered "because we don't have evidence from the person at the top of this organization." And he said the failure to turn documents over in response to the subpoena was "effectively Mr. Trump thumbing his nose at this court's order."

Still, Assistant Attorney General Kevin Wallace signaled the probe was about to move to a new phase, saying: "We plan to bring enforcement action in the near future."

A parallel criminal investigation is being conducted by the Manhattan District Attorney, Alvin Bragg, also a Democrat. □

## Court won't revive ban on secret filming at slaughterhouses

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Supreme Court on Monday rejected an appeal by Kansas to revive a law, earlier struck down by lower courts that banned secret filming at slaughterhouses and other livestock facilities.

The justices did not comment in leaving in place a ruling by a federal appeals court panel that the so-called ag-gag law violated the First Amendment by stifling speech critical of ani-

mal agriculture.

A three-judge panel of the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in a split decision ruled that even if deception is used to enter private property, Kansas may not discriminate based on whether the person intends to harm or help the enterprise. The appellate ruling upheld a permanent injunction issued by a federal judge in 2020.

The Kansas law made it a crime for anyone to take

a picture or video at an animal facility without the owner's consent or to enter the facility under false pretenses.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund and the Center for Food Safety were among the groups that challenged the ban.

Federal appeals courts considering similar laws in Iowa and Idaho had split over the issue, raising Kansas' hope that the high court would step in. □



Visitors walk outside the Supreme Court building on Capitol Hill in Washington, Feb. 21, 2022.

Associated Press



# Melissa Lucio's execution delayed by Texas appeals court

By JUAN A. LOZANO

Associated Press

**HOUSTON (AP)** — A Texas appeals court on Monday delayed the execution of Melissa Lucio amid growing doubts about whether she fatally beat her 2-year-old daughter in a case that has garnered the support of lawmakers, celebrities and even some jurors who sentenced her to death. The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals granted a request by Lucio's lawyers for a stay of execution so a lower court can review her claims that new evidence would exonerate her. It was not immediately known when the lower court would begin reviewing her case.

Lucio had been set for lethal injection Wednesday for the 2007 death of her daughter Mariah in Harlingen, a city of about 75,000 in Texas' southern tip.

Prosecutors have maintained that the girl was the victim of abuse and noted that her body was covered in bruises. Lucio's lawyers say Mariah died from injuries she sustained in a fall down a steep staircase several days before she died.

"I am grateful the court has given me the chance to live and prove my innocence," Lucio said in a statement provided by her lawyers.



Supporters of death row inmate Melissa Lucio, including Tracy Fennen, left to right, Justin Rosario, Mark Anthony Vasquez, April Agosto and Amerika Leija, wait in the Governor's Public Reception Room at the Capitol, in Austin, Texas, on Monday April 25, 2022, for a decision from the Board of Pardons and Paroles about her clemency.

Associated Press

"Mariah is in my heart today and always. I am grateful to have more days to be a mother to my children and a grandmother to my grandchildren. I will use my time to help bring them to Christ. I am deeply grateful to everyone who prayed for me and spoke out on my behalf."

The execution stay was announced minutes before the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles had been set to consider Lucio's clem-

ency application to either commute her death sentence or grant her a 120-day reprieve.

Lucio's attorneys say her capital murder conviction was based on an unreliable and coerced confession that was the result of relentless questioning and her long history of being sexually, physically and emotionally abused. They say Lucio wasn't allowed to present evidence questioning the validity of her con-

fession.

Her lawyers also contend that unscientific and false evidence misled jurors into believing Mariah's injuries could have been caused only by abuse and not by medical complications from a severe fall.

"It would have shocked the public's conscience for Melissa to be put to death based on false and incomplete medical evidence for a crime that never even happened," said Vanessa

Potkin, one of Lucio's attorneys who is with the Innocence Project. "All of the new evidence of her innocence has never before been considered by any court. The court's stay allows us to continue fighting alongside Melissa to overturn her wrongful conviction."

A spokeswoman for Cameron County District Attorney Luis Saenz, whose office prosecuted the case, did not immediately return an email seeking comment.

In its three-page order, the appeals court asked that the trial court in Brownsville that handled Lucio's case review four claims her lawyers have made: whether prosecutors used false evidence to convict her; whether previously unavailable scientific evidence would have prevented her conviction; whether she is actually innocent; and whether prosecutors suppressed evidence that would have been favorable to her defense.

During a sometimes contentious Texas House committee hearing on Lucio's case this month, Saenz had said he disagreed with Lucio's lawyers' claims that new evidence would exonerate her. □

# Michigan chief IDs officer who fatally shot Patrick Lyoya



A TV display shows video evidence of a Grand Rapids police officer struggling with and shooting Patrick Lyoya at Grand Rapids City Hall on Wednesday, April 13, 2022.

Associated Press

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (AP)**

— A Michigan police chief reversed course Monday and publicly identified the officer who fatally shot Patrick Lyoya in the back of

the head during an April 4 traffic stop.

The Grand Rapids officer is Christopher Schurr, Chief Eric Winstrom said.

Lyoya, 26, a Black man and

native of Congo, was killed after a struggle with the white officer.

"In the interest of transparency, to reduce ongoing speculation, and to avoid any further confusion, I am confirming the name already publicly circulating — Christopher Schurr — as the officer involved in the April 4 officer-involved shooting," Winstrom said in a statement.

The Associated Press left a phone message seeking comment from Schurr, who remains off the job while state police investigate the shooting.

Winstrom's announcement was a reversal. In the aftermath of the shooting and the release of video, Winstrom said he would with-

hold the officer's name unless he was charged with a crime. It was described as a long-standing practice that applied to the public as well as city employees.

Lyoya's family and Black leaders, including the Rev. Al Sharpton, repeatedly called for transparency and release of the name.

"We want his name!" Sharpton shouted at Lyoya's funeral on Friday, saying authorities cannot set a precedent of withholding the names of officers who kill people unless the officer is charged.

Lyoya, who was unarmed, was face down on the ground when he was shot. Schurr was on top of him and can be heard on video demanding that he take his

hand off the officer's Taser. A forensic pathologist who conducted an autopsy at the family's request said the gun was pressed to Lyoya's head when he was shot.

"Every time a young Black man or woman is arrested in this town, you put their name all over the news. Every time we're suspected of something, you put our name out there," Sharpton said. "How dare you hold the name of a man that killed this man? We want his name!"

After the funeral, Grand Rapids City Manager Mark Washington acknowledged the demand for the officer's name and said he would discuss the matter with Winstrom and city employment officials. □



# Far-right Le Pen plots parliament win after loss to Macron

By ELAINE GANLEY

Associated Press

**PARIS (AP)** — French far-right leader Marine Le Pen gathered her party's troops on Monday, not to mourn her loss a day earlier in the French presidential election but to plot out how to orchestrate a victory in June's parliamentary vote and capture a majority of seats in the National Assembly.

Centrist President Emmanuel Macron beat her 58.5% to 41.5% to win re-election Sunday but Le Pen produced her highest-ever level of support in her three attempts to become France's leader. That gave the 53-year-old nationalist firebrand momentum as she charged into what is called the "third round" of voting, hoping to turn the tables on Macron's majority in parliament.

Le Pen called a national bureau meeting of her far-right National Rally party on Monday.

Le Pen's high support Sunday laid bare a European Union nation that is fractured between those she refers to as the "France of the forgotten" — the vulnerable working class that has been hard hit by rising in-



Far-right leader Marine Le Pen speaks after the early result projections of the French presidential election runoff were announced in Paris, Sunday, April 24, 2022.

Associated Press

flation and the fallout from sanctions on Russia for its invasion of Ukraine — and what she calls the "elitists" of Macron's staunchly pro-EU voters.

Whether Le Pen can break through the ceiling of voter fear that has blocked her party in the past is central to capturing enough seats in parliament.

Still, the fear factor played a large role in her presidential loss.

Le Pen's program, which

would crack down severely on immigrants and diminish the role of the EU and NATO in France, sent many voters into the arms of Macron. That was not due to their support for the 44-year-old president but to their desire to block his populist opponent. Le Pen also questioned why France is sending arms to Ukraine.

A revamped France under Le Pen — with less Europe — also pushed some voters aside. Her goal was to cre-

ate a "Europe of Nations," replacing the current system with a patriotic version that would have returned some powers to EU countries, whose sovereignty she and other populist leaders feel has been diminished. Italian right-wing leader Matteo Salvini, a close Le Pen ally, pledged to continue their common project toward this vision.

"Onward, together, for a Europe founded on work, family, security, rights and

freedom," he said in a tweet late Sunday.

Many voters already expect that Le Pen will gain more seats in parliament, the question is only how much.

"The gap (between Le Pen's and Macron's parties) is closing, and the National Rally party is going up," said French music teacher Valérie Jacquet, 56.

She said that shows the French are worried about their purchasing power — Le Pen's main campaign theme — and security.

"But I think that Mrs. Le Pen's platform is too extreme. She pushes people apart," Jacquet said.

The National Assembly currently has 577 seats, with Macron and his allies controlling 313 of them. Le Pen's party has only 8 seats now but would like to upset Macron's majority with a broader far-right movement to hobble his ability to get his agenda passed. But France's voting system stands a bit in the way of a far-right conquest in parliament.

The legislative vote comes in two rounds on June 12 and June 19. Candidates who win a majority in the first round are elected. □

# U.K. women slam sexism of 'Basic Instinct' slur on lawmaker

JILL LAWLESS

LONDON (AP)

Women from across British politics called Monday for action to tackle misogyny after a newspaper ran a story accusing the deputy opposition leader of trying to "distract" the prime minister during debates by crossing and uncrossing her legs. The Mail on Sunday quoted an anonymous Conservative lawmaker as saying Labour Party Deputy Leader Angela Rayner tried to throw Conservative Prime Minister Boris Johnson "off his stride" as she sat across from him in the House of Commons. The article called it "a fully-clothed Parliamentary equivalent of Sharon Stone's infamous scene in the 1992 film 'Basic Instinct,'" in which Stone distracts police interrogators while

wearing a short skirt.

Rayner accused "Boris Johnson's cheerleaders" of using "desperate, perverted smears."

"I stand accused of a 'ploy' to 'distract' the helpless PM - by being a woman, having legs and wearing clothes," she wrote on Twitter. "Women in politics face sexism and misogyny every day — and I'm no different." Rayner, who comes from a working-class family in northern England, left school when she was 16 and got her political start in the trade union movement. That makes a sharp contrast with Johnson, who was educated at the elite private school Eton and Oxford University. Johnson has sometimes struggled to parry her attacks during debates.

The prime minister condemned the article, writing on Twitter: "As much as I disagree with Angela Rayner on almost every political issue, I respect her as a parliamentarian and deplore the misogyny directed at her anonymously today." Johnson said Monday he had gotten in touch with Rayner about the article, which he called "the most appalling load of sexist, misogynist tripe."

He said the anonymous lawmaker who made the "Basic Instinct" comments would face "the terrors of the Earth" if identified.

"It's totally intolerable, that kind of thing," Johnson told British broadcasters.

More than a century after the first female lawmaker was elected to Britain's Parliament, women make up



Labour deputy leader Angela Rayner watches as the leader of the British Labour Party Keir Starmer makes his keynote speech at the annual party conference in Brighton, England, Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2021.

Associated Press

34% of the 650 legislators in the House of Commons. Long known for its boozy, macho atmosphere, Parliament is now a more diverse place.

Still, some say change has not gone far enough. Many female U.K. politicians said the article was an extreme example of the sexism they encounter daily. □



# Turkish court gives philanthropist Kavala life in prison

By **SUZAN FRASER**  
Associated Press

**ANKARA, Turkey (AP)** — A Turkish court on Monday sentenced prominent Turkish civil rights activist and philanthropist Osman Kavala to life in prison without parole, finding him guilty of attempting to overthrow the government in connection with the 2013 mass anti-government protests. The court in Istanbul also sentenced seven other defendants, including 71-year-old architect Mucella Yapici, to 18 years in prison each for "aiding" the attempt. It ordered that the activists, who were not in custody, be immediately arrested, the state-run Anadolu Agency reported. The verdict, which is likely to harm Turkey's ties with Western nations, comes as Europe's top human rights body, the Council of Europe, launched infringement procedures against Turkey for refusing to abide by a ruling by the European Court of Human Rights, which called for Kavala's release on grounds that his rights had been violated. Kavala, 64, has been jailed in Silivri prison, on the outskirts of Istanbul, since he was detained Oct. 18,



**Osman Kavala, a Turkish philanthropist businessman and human rights defender poses for a photo in Istanbul, Turkey, April 29, 2015.**

Associated Press

2017, accused of financing the protests. He and other defendants denied all the accusations and are expected to appeal the verdicts. Human rights groups say Kavala was prosecuted with flimsy evidence and

that the case is politically motivated. Supporters of Kavala and the seven other defendants immediately protested the verdicts Monday, shouting slogans in support of the 2013 protests that morphed from a dispute over build-

ing a mall in an Istanbul park into wider demonstrations against the government of then-Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Ozgur Ozel, an opposition legislator whose party frequently questions the independence of Turkey's courts, accused the judiciary of allegedly meeting the wishes of Erdogan, who is now president. "Justice did not prevail here today — the will of the person who rules this country was carried out," he told reporters outside the courthouse. Ozel also denounced the trial as an attempt by Erdogan to "demonize the protests that were extremely peaceful and were staged out of environmental concerns." Asked for his final words in court on Monday, Kavala said: "The aggravated life sentence demanded against me is an assassination that cannot be explained through legal reasons," according to the Media and Law Studies Association group which has been monitoring the trial. In his defense statements Friday, Kavala rejected the accusations once again, insisting that he had merely

taken pastries and face masks to the protesters. He said allegations that he directed the protests are "not plausible." "The fact that I spent 4.5 years of my life in prison is an irreparable loss for me. My only consolation is the possibility that my experience will contribute to a better understanding of the grave problems of the judiciary," Kavala told the court by videoconference from Silivri. Kavala is the founder of a nonprofit organization, Anadolu Kultur, which focuses on cultural and artistic projects promoting peace and dialogue. Kavala was initially acquitted in February 2020 of charges that connected him with the 2013 Gezi Park protests. As supporters awaited his release, Kavala was rearrested on new charges linking him to Turkey's 2016 coup attempt. The acquittal was later overturned and the case was merged with that relating to the coup attempt, which the Turkish government blames on the network of U.S.-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen. Gulen denies any links to the attempted coup. □

# Egypt: Ruins of ancient temple for Zeus unearthed in Sinai



**This undated photo provided by the Egyptian Tourism and Antiquities Ministry on Monday, April 25, 2022, shows archeologists working in the ruins of a temple for Zeus-Kasios, the ancient Greek god, at the Tell el-Farma archaeological site in the northwestern corner of the Sinai Peninsula.**

Associated Press

By **SAMY MAGDY**

**CAIRO (AP)** — Egyptian archaeologists unearthed

the ruins of a temple for the ancient Greek god Zeus in the Sinai Peninsula, antiq-

uities authorities said Monday. The Tourism and Antiquities Ministry said in a statement the temple ruins were found in the Tell el-Farma archaeological site in northwestern Sinai. Tell el-Farma, also known by its ancient name Pelusium, dates back to the late Pharaonic period and was also used during Greco-Roman and Byzantine times. There are also remains dating to the Christian and early Islamic periods. Mostafa Waziri, secretary-general of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, said archaeologists excavated the temple ruins through its entrance gate, where two huge fallen granite columns were visible. The gate was destroyed in a powerful earthquake in ancient

times, he said. Waziri said the ruins were found between the Pelusium Fort and a memorial church at the site. Archaeologists found a set of granite blocks probably used to build a staircase for worshipers to reach the temple. Excavations at the area date back to early 1900 when French Egyptologist Jean Clédat found ancient Greek inscriptions that showed the existence of the Zeus-Kasios temple but he didn't unearth it, according to the ministry. Zeus-Kasios is a conflation of Zeus, the God of the sky in ancient Greek mythology, and Mount Kasios in Syria, where Zeus once worshipped. Hisham Hussein, the director of Sinai archaeological

sites, said inscriptions found in the area show that Roman Emperor Hadrian (117-138) renovated the temple. He said experts will study the unearthed blocks and do a photogrammetry survey to help determine the architectural design of the temple. The temple ruins are the latest in a series of ancient discoveries Egypt has touted in the past couple of years in the hope of attracting more tourists. The tourism industry has been reeling from the political turmoil following the 2011 popular uprising that toppled longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak. The sector was also dealt further blows by the coronavirus pandemic and most recently Russia's invasion of Ukraine. □



# Women protest in Mexico City over killings, disappearances

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Hundreds of women marched through downtown Mexico City and its suburbs on Sunday to protest the horrifying death of an 18-year-old in the northern city of Monterrey.

Protesters also marched in the rough suburb of Nezahualcoyotl, where two women were killed in the last week. The demonstrators, mainly women, carried signs reading "No to Harassment" and "Mexico is a mass grave."

In Mexico City, the march was largely peaceful, unlike many previous women's rights demonstrations in recent years. The demonstrators did not spray-paint slogans on the Angel, a tall stone monumental shaft commemorating the country's independence.

Instead, they taped small missing posters on it, each one describing the disappearance of a woman. Many of the posters depicted Debanhi Escobar, whose body was found Thursday in a cistern at a motel in Monterrey, almost two weeks after she had gone missing.

Marchers chanted "Justice, justice!" and carried a banner reading "24,000 are missing" about disappeared women. Overall in Mexico, the number of miss-



Women march against the recent murders of several women, in the Mexico City suburb of Nezahualcoyotl, where two of the women were killed last week, Sunday, April 24, 2022.

Associated Press

ing people of all genders has risen to over 100,000.

Activists say police and prosecutors have been slow and ineffective in investigating the cases.

Those criticisms were reinforced when the father of Debanhi Escobar said authorities had searched the motel several times. But it wasn't until workers reported a foul odor coming from an underground water tank that investigators finally found her body. She had died from a blow to

the head, apparently soon after she was last seen April 8.

Her case shocked Mexico, because the young woman was left on the side of a highway late at night, purportedly after a taxi driver tried to fondle her.

The case made headlines because of a haunting photo taken by the driver, who was supposed to get her home that night.

The driver, who worked for a taxi app, took the photo to show the 18-year-old

got out of his car alive on the outskirts of Monterrey. There she was, a young woman standing alone at night on the side of a highway, wearing a skirt and high-top sneakers.

The image seemed to speak of the tremendous vulnerability, and the self-assuredness — or despera-

tion — of the young woman. Nobody saw her again until late Thursday, when investigators managed to pull her body from the 12-foot (4-meter) deep water tank near a pool at the roadside motel.

Critics are disturbed by the fact that even when authorities are spurred to act by public outcry, investigations are seldom very timely or efficient.

Investigators said 200 personnel used drones, search dogs and reviews of security camera footage to look for Escobar, though her body was lying not far from where she exited the taxi.

Killings of women have increased in recent years in Mexico, rising from 977 in 2020 to 1,015 in 2021. Those were just cases classified as "femicides" a legal term used in Mexico when women are killed because of their gender. Killings of women overall are much higher. Disappearances of women remain high, with about 1,600 reported missing so far this year. Officials say 829 of them are still listed as missing, and 16 were found dead. □

## Exiled ex-Ecuador president doesn't exclude political return

By **SAMUEL PETREQUIN**

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — Former Ecuador president Rafael Correa said the political asylum he has been granted in Belgium is proof he is persecuted by his country's authorities and did not rule out a return to politics in an interview with The Associated Press on Monday. Correa, who in 2020 was found guilty of corruption and sentenced to eight years in prison in absentia, has been living in his wife's native Belgium since 2017. Though Ecuadorian authorities have demanded his arrest and extradition previously, thus far he has been allowed to stay in Belgium.

Ecuador's National Court of Justice sent a new extradition request for Correa last week, but it has since emerged that the Belgian Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons granted the former head of state asylum, with the status of refugee. The agency has issued a certificate dated April 15 that has been seen by the AP. Correa said he can now travel safely across the world, except in Ecuador. "I give conferences, I give economic advice, so I have to travel to work, to get an earning," he said. Correa said the only way for him to stop what he per-

ceives as political persecution would be to hold an elected position again.

"So if I need to return to my country to win the election, I should do that," he said.

Ecuador's National Court of Justice president Iván Saquicela said last week that he signed the order initiating the extradition process in relation with Correa's sentencing in the corruption case. At the time, prosecutors said the former president oversaw a plot in which foreign and local businesses made cash payments to his now defunct Alianza PAIS political party in exchange for lucrative public works contracts. □

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## KING'S DAY CELEBRATION



**ORANJESTAD** – In case you happen to be on vacation in Aruba this Wednesday you will get the chance to see and feel the love of the Aruban people for their King Willem-Alexander. His birthday will be celebrated and this means that Wednesday is a public holiday. There will be festivities all-over the island, flea markets, restaurant specials and for all you will see a lot of the color orange, referring to the color of the Dutch Royal Family, which hails from the House of Orange.

The colors of the official Dutch flag are red, white, and blue. On royal birthdays, the Dutch tricolor is flown with an orange pennant above it. Each year on April 27, Amsterdam — and indeed the entire county — turns orange

and because Aruba is part of the Dutch Kingdom, we celebrate along. Aruba is one of the four countries that make up the Kingdom of the Netherlands: The Netherlands, Aruba, Sint Maarten and Curacao.

### Willem-Alexander

King Willem-Alexander is the head of state of Aruba and the governor represents the monarch in Aruba. Willem-Alexander was the son of then Princess Beatrix and Prince Claus. He was first in the line of succession since his mother's accession to the throne on April 30, 1980, he also bore the title of prince of Orange. Willem-Alexander married Argentine-born Máxima Zorreguieta (thereafter Princess Máxima) in Amsterdam. On April 30, 2013, Beatrix stepped

down, and Willem-Alexander was inaugurated as king of the Netherlands. The couple has three daughters: Catharina-Amalia, Princess of Orange and first in line to the throne, Princess Alexia of the Netherlands, Princess Ariane of the Netherlands.

### Let's Celebrate!

There will be numerous sporting events and family-friendly celebrations this Wednesday. Sports competitions, kite flying contests and fun-filled activities are held at various sites including community centers. There will be flea markets and various activities for children during the day. Don't miss these great activities and enjoy your orange fest. □



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The Bulldog Aruba seats up to 110 people and provides guests with a refined selection of cocktails, smoothies and fine dining. With regular Karaoke Nights, live performances by bands and DJs, it is a relaxed place to go out and meet new people. Just like in Amsterdam, The Bulldog Aruba allows guests to taste the typical Bulldog atmosphere: inviting, pleasant and relaxed. An atmosphere that fits seamlessly with the Caribbean way of life. Without a doubt, this is 'The Livingroom of Aruba'.

The history of The Bulldog goes back to 1975 when founder Henk de Vries took over his father's shop in Amsterdam's famous Red Light District and turned this place into the world's very first coffee shop. Today, The Bulldog is an international company with multiple locations in Barcelona, Rome, Ibiza, Silver Star (Canada BC) and, of course, home base Amsterdam.

### KING DAY CELEBRATION!

Celebrate this Dutch celebration with your loved ones or friends. The night will start from 7pm to 9pm with the dance club DJ Gandino who will be spinning some fresh tunes during the happy hour.



From 10pm to 12am it's karaoke time with Sally and Ally and after that DJ Gandino will let the dance club continue till 3am.

There will be free King orange shot with your first order and all night bucket deals specials.

Happy hour starts from 7-9pm and from 1 till 3am. And as they say a full belly makes a happy heart, so take a look at their fabulous menu, which is available till late night. Try their nachos, chicken wings, cheeseburger, french fries and don't forget the loaded fries, you won't be disappointed.

Walk-ins are always welcome, but reservations are highly recommended at +297 563-7951 or send an email to orsine.wanga@thebulldog.com

Roses are red, Violets are blue, Vodka is cheaper than dinner for two! ☐

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Tel: +297-563-7951

Open from Monday to Sunday

From 5pm to 1am



## Aruba Airport Authority N.V. and Wings of Hope contributing to Earth Day 2022



**ORANJESTAD - Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) and Wings of Hope (WoH) are proud to be contributing to the Aruban Community on Earth Day 2022.**

Today marks the 52nd annual Earth Day and is recognized as a day to shed light on the ongoing and emerging global environmental concerns and the importance of change in human behavior and how everyone can contribute towards protecting the environment. Sustainability is one of AAA's strategic pillars being a guiding principle for the company. The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are anchored in the purpose, vision, values, and strategies of the organization.

This year's Earth Day theme is "Invest in our Planet" and based on SDG 15 Life on Land, AAA is proudly contributing to the environment through two very important projects. AAA has partnered up with Fundacion Parke Nacional Aruba (FPNA) for the development of their "Cas di Cultivo", an integral part of their Flora Biodiversity Enhancement & Climate Resilient Program

which was officially inaugurated on April 22, 2022. This program entails the cultivation of native and endemic flora species, that in the future will be planted in a closed off botanical garden network, which will be created and maintained by FPNA to serve as haven for local flora and fauna and as an example of sustainable gardening practices.

As part of WoH's Environment/Sustainable Airport Community goal, WoH organized a beach cleanup on Saturday April 23, 2022 in the morning together with Scrubble Bubbles with more than 75 participants from the Airport Community, Grupo Scout Ora Ubao, family members and friends who helped clean the area at Rincon Beach. AAA would like to especially thank ABC Project Venture for providing a large waste container at the location where participants were able to dispose of the waste collected.

AAA hopes to positively influence other companies to also take steps towards making a difference in the Aruban Community. □

## Honoring of loyal visitors at Divi Phoenix Resort

**EAGLE BEACH - Recently, Aruba Tourism Authority representative Mr. Jonathan Boekhoudt had the great pleasure in honoring many loyal Aruba visitors with their distinctive certificates. These certificates are a way to say "Masha Danki" for continuously choosing Aruba as a favorite vacation destination. The titles are as following: 10+ years "Distinguished Visitor", 20+ years "Goodwill Ambassador" and 36+ years "Emerald Ambassador".**

For today, the honorees are Edward and Karen Davis from Kansas, USA, and Alfred and Sandra Pepin from Connecticut, USA, who have been honored as Goodwill Ambassadors.

The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between the 10-20-35 consecutive years mark.

The honorees love coming to the island for its friendly people, sandy beaches, great weather and safety.

Boekhoudt together with the representatives of Divi Phoenix Resort presented the certificates to the honorees, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home for so many years. □





# Subscriptions are coming to travel, should you get on board?

By **SAM KEMMIS** of **Nerd-Wallet**

Subscriptions have seeped into nearly every consumer industry, from TV to tacos. There are even services that help subscribers cancel all their subscriptions. But one industry has notably lagged: travel.

That could be changing. The market for travel subscriptions has started to expand and includes cheap flights, airport lounges, luxury accommodations and high-end credit cards.

"Subscription models can add a lot of predictability to an industry that can be very spiky," says Amy Konary, vice president at the Subscribed Institute by Zuora, a think tank focused on the subscription economy.

Travel purchases tend to be one-off and transactional. Airline and hotel loyalty programs aim to promote loyalty and benefits, but only those travelers who travel (and pay) a lot can reap the rewards. Subscriptions could turn this concept on its head by offering these benefits upfront.

"The subscription model lets you get access to those premium perks by paying directly," Konary says.

Will customers take to this idea? Travel brands are rushing to find out.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS TAKE OFF

Alaska Airlines dipped a toe into the subscription waters in March with the launch of its "Flight Pass." For a price that starts at



The first Alaska Airlines passenger flight on a Boeing 737-9 Max airplane takes off, Monday, March 1, 2021, on a flight to San Diego from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in Seattle.

Associated Press

\$49 per month, subscribers can book one round-trip main cabin flight every two months for one penny plus about \$15 in fees. The catch? The flights must be direct, booked within a limited time frame and, most importantly, fly between particular airports in California, Nevada and Arizona. Confused?

"Communication has been the big challenge," says Alex Corey, managing director of business development and products at Alaska Airlines. "It's been hard for people to appreciate that this might not be designed for them. If I went to my favorite store and it didn't meet my needs, I'd be like, 'Hey, make this this

way.'" Instead of trying to be everything for every traveler, Alaska's subscription has focused on a narrow niche: younger Californians with plenty of wanderlust and schedule flexibility. So far, just under half of subscribers are millennials or Generation Zers, according to Alaska.

It's a niche product, to be sure, but Alaska is confident that it can appeal to a particular kind of West Coast traveler.

"Californians travel 3.5 times more within their own state than residents of other states do," says Corey, explaining why the airline chose the state as the proving ground for its idea.

And Alaska focused on the lowest-cost entry point possible, starting at \$49 per month to make a flight subscription seem feasible to almost anyone.

"We wanted to compete with an Uber ride or a bar tab," Corey says.

## CATERING TO NOMADS

On the other side of the price spectrum, the luxury travel platform Inspirato offers a subscription service for vacation rentals and high-end hotels starting at \$2,500 per month.

That's \$30,000 per year for the opportunity to book high-end accommodations around the world. That might seem like a huge bill for a vacation budget, but it's potentially more reason-

able for remote-working nomads looking to travel as much as possible.

Yet Inspirato's subscription, too, comes with a long list of caveats and exceptions. Pass holders may book just one trip at a time, bookings are on a first-come, first-served basis and many rooms and homes are available only during off-peak seasons.

Less spendy digital nomads can choose Selina, a co-living and coworking subscription service that combines the cost of accommodation, office space and dependable Wi-Fi into one monthly bill. Subscribers can bounce between Selina's global destinations and take advantage of surfing lessons, yoga classes and other wellness activities.

These services offer one benefit to potential customers that is difficult to quantify: simplicity. Rather than searching through hundreds of vacation rental listings, subscribers can make one payment per month and choose from a range of vetted options.

Yet simplicity alone won't cut it, Konary says. Consumers are wary of adding another monthly bill to their long list of active subscriptions and need to know they're getting a good deal.

"As we've become more familiar with these models, we have a high bar for what we expect in terms of value," Konary says. □

# GM to offer electrified Corvette as early as next year

By **MICHELLE CHAPMAN**  
**AP Business Writer**

General Motors says it will offer an electrified Chevrolet Corvette as early as next year.

President Mark Reuss said in a statement on LinkedIn Monday that the automaker will also sell a fully electric Corvette sometime in the future.

An electrified vehicle generally means a gas-electric hybrid or a plug-in rechargeable hybrid, but more details on the vehicles are expected at a later

date. Interest in electric vehicles is increasing among consumers as demand for an electric Corvette has been building among the sports car's fan base.

Last August President Joe Biden even discussed how he'd had a conversation with General Motors CEO Mary Barra about wanting to test drive an electric Corvette once it is built.

Earlier this month GM and Honda announced that they are planning to co-develop some affordable electric vehicles that will

use GM's next-generation Ultium battery technology. The vehicles, which will include a compact Chevrolet Equinox SUV that will sell for around \$30,000. It's expected to go sale in North America next year.

In January GM said that it plans to spend nearly \$7 billion to convert a factory to make electric pickup trucks and to build a new battery cell plant.

GM has set a goal of building only electric passenger vehicles by 2035. It has pledged to have 30 elec-



This is the logo on the rear of a 2016 Corvette on display at the Pittsburgh International Auto Show in Pittsburgh, Feb. 11, 2016.

Associated Press

tric vehicle models for sale globally by 2025. □



# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 43 Nicholas II, for one rewards

5 Twitch 10 Plain silly 12 Lasagna or linguine 13 Navel 15 Mendes of movies

16 Poetic "always" 17 Harry's friend 18 Think back about 20 Venice official 21 Push away 22 Not new 23 Panache 25 Face feature 28 Quick snacks 31 Angry states 32 Dwellings 34 A thou thou 35 Some amount of 36 First número 37 Shimmy expert 40 Loosen, as laces 41 Nephew's sister 42 Organ parts

## DOWN

1 Rome's river 2 Indignant cry 3 Royal home 4 NBC show since 1975 5 Boot attachment 6 Light touch 7 Texas team 8 Fall guy 9 Like some space flights

11 Lace's place 14 Narrow book jacket 19 Church areas 20 Because of 24 Tripoli resident 25 Rain cloud part 26 Set straight 27 Have as a customer 29 Draws out 30 New York tribe 33 More tender 35 Pro votes 38 Mouth part 39 Minor complaint

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Yesterday's answer

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4-26

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-26

## CRYPTOQUOTE

QWHINI, RLJH BLIX, YHQLC

ND IGHR MBNIS NXSHH

U M A I . — Y H C F M G L C

B S M C J R L C

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I'M SURE THE UNIVERSE IS FULL OF INTELLIGENT LIFE. IT'S JUST BEEN TOO INTELLIGENT TO COME HERE. — ARTHUR C. CLARKE

## Elon Musk buys Twitter for \$44B and will privatize company



Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk arrives on the red carpet for the Axel Springer media award in Berlin on Dec. 1, 2020.

Associated Press

**TOM KRISHER and MATT O'BRIEN**

Associated Press

Elon Musk reached an agreement to buy Twitter for roughly \$44 billion on Monday, promising a more lenient touch to policing content on the platform where he promotes his interests, attacks critics and opines on social and economic issues to more than 83 million followers.

The outspoken Tesla CEO, who is also the world's wealthiest person, has said he wanted to own and privatize Twitter because he thinks it's not living up to its potential as a platform for free speech.

Musk said in a joint statement with Twitter that he wants to make the service "better than ever" with new features, such as getting rid of automated "spam bots" and making its algorithms open to the public to increase trust.

"Free speech is the bedrock of a functioning democracy, and Twitter is the digital town square where matters vital to the future of humanity are debated," Musk said, adding hearts, stars and rocket emojis in a tweet that highlighted the statement.

A more hands-off approach to content moderation has many people concerned the platform will become more of a haven for disinformation and hate speech, something it has worked hard on in recent years to mitigate.

The deal was cemented roughly two weeks after the billionaire first revealed a 9 percent stake in the platform. Musk said last week that he had lined up \$46.5 billion in financing to buy Twitter, putting pressure on the company's board to negotiate a deal.

Twitter said the transaction was unanimously approved by its board of directors and is expected to close in 2022.

Shares of Twitter Inc. rose 6% Monday to \$52 per share. On April 14, Musk announced an offer to buy the social media platform for \$54.20 per share. While the stock is up sharply since Musk made his offer, it is well below the high of \$77 per share it reached in February 2021.

Musk has described himself as a "free-speech absolutist" but is also known for blocking or disparaging other Twitter users who question or disagree with

him.

In recent weeks, he has voiced a number of proposed changes for the company, from relaxing its content restrictions — such as the rules that suspended former President Donald Trump's account — to ridding the platform of fake and automated accounts, and shifting away from its advertising-based revenue model. Musk believes he can increase revenue through subscriptions that give paying customers a better experience, perhaps even an ad-free version of Twitter.

Asked during a recent TED talk if there are any limits to his notion of "free speech," Musk said Twitter or any forum is "obviously bound by the laws of the country that it operates in. So obviously there are some limitations on free speech in the US, and, of course, Twitter would have to abide by those rules."

Beyond that, though, he said he'd be "very reluctant" to delete things and in general be cautious about permanent bans.

It won't be perfect, Musk added, "but I think we want it to really have the perception and reality that speech is as free as reasonably possible."

After the deal was announced, the NAACP released a statement that urged Musk not to allow former President Trump, the 45th president, back onto the platform.

"Disinformation, misinformation and hate speech have NO PLACE on Twitter," the civil rights organization said in a statement. "Do not allow 45 to return to the platform. Do not allow Twitter to become a petri dish for hate speech, or falsehoods that subvert our democracy."

Efforts to "deregulate" Twitter could thwart the company's current commitment to making the platform as safe as possible for all users, said Brooke Erin Duffy, professor of communication at Cornell University and an expert on social media. "□

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# Buffett to auction off one last private lunch for charity

**OMAHA, Neb. (AP)** — The world's most expensive lunch will go on sale again this spring when investor Warren Buffett auctions off a private meal to raise money for a California homeless charity one last time.

Buffett, Berkshire Hathaway's CEO, held the lunch auction once a year for 20 years before the pandemic began to raise money for the Glide Foundation, which helps the homeless in San Francisco. The auction has been on hiatus for the past two years, but Glide said Monday — a few days before thousands of shareholders are expected to gather at this week's Berkshire annual meeting — that the event will be revived this year. Every winning bid since 2008 has topped \$1 million, and Buffett has raised nearly \$34.5 million for the charity over the years.

Many of the past winners have been investors who revere Buffett for his remarkable track record of finding undervalued companies and stocks to buy for his Omaha, Nebraska-based conglomerate. But in the last auction, a cryptocurrency pioneer paid \$4,567,888 in 2019 for the chance to dine with Buffett.

Buffett's first wife, Susie, introduced him to Glide after she volunteered there. She died in 2004, but the connection endured.

Buffett has said he supports Glide because they help people in difficult situations find hope again in life. Glide provides meals, health care, job training, rehabilitation and housing support to the poor and homeless.

The 91-year-old billionaire didn't immediately respond to questions about why he decided the end the auction after this year. □

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## Assistant Director

Xiomara Arends

## Editors

Pilar Flores  
Richard Brooks

## Sales

Sulaika Croes

## Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

## Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

## Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

## Columnists

Anthony Croes

Weststraat 22  
T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com

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Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
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Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
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# 'The Offer' recreates wild drama behind 'The Godfather'

By ALICIA RANCILIO

**NEW YORK (AP)** — On a trip to New York in the early 1970s, Robert Evans, the former head of Paramount, discovered a dead rat in his hotel room bed. According to the new Paramount+ series "The Offer," this was not an unfortunate travel experience that today would result in a scathing Yelp review, but a warning from the mafia.

Crime boss Joseph Colombo believed Mario Puzo's book "The Godfather" was an insult to Italian Americans and did not want Paramount to adapt it for the big screen.

The scene is both horrifying and hilarious as Matthew Goode as Evans high-tails it out of town, after ordering the movie's producer, Al Ruddy (played by Miles Teller), to make it right.

What's revealed in the 10-episodes of "The Offer," debuting April 28, is that pressure from the mafia was just one of many hurdles that Ruddy, Evans and other players navigated to get the movie made.

"I couldn't believe some of the stories," said Goode.

Adds Patrick Gallo, who plays Puzo: "if you love the film, you're not going to believe the kinds of things that



This image released by Paramount+ shows David Fogler as Francis Ford Coppola in a scene from "The Offer," debuting April 28 on Paramount+.

Associated Press

went into making it."

Although the "The Godfather" is an extreme example, Colin Hanks, who plays one of the suits at Paramount's then owner, Gulf + Western, says "The Offer" provides a window into just how hard it is to make anything in Hollywood.

"It's an interesting show for the people that have watched 'The Godfather' and love 'The Godfather' because obviously they're going to know locations, they're going to know char-

acters, and there's going to be some insight into the making of the film. But I think even if someone has not seen 'The Godfather,' I think it's a pretty interesting examination of just how difficult it is."

It also shows how fickle Hollywood can be.

"I've talked to really acclaimed and accredited filmmakers who made an incredible film and then assumed that they would be able to make whatever they wanted to next. And

they couldn't," said Teller. "Even some true-blue movie stars, you'd be surprised how quickly the enthusiasm for them fades if they're not coming off a hit. And somebody told me 'In this business, nobody cares what you did two years ago.' I think it's nobody cares what you did seven months ago. It's a constant proving ground."

"The Offer" paints a heroic picture of Ruddy, who was steadfast in protecting director Francis Ford

Coppola's creative vision, while taking heat from all sides. It depicts how Coppola desperately wanted to cast a then-unknown, off-Broadway actor named Al Pacino in the role of Michael Corleone, much to the initial dismay of Evans and Gulf + Western. He also thought Marlon Brando was perfect as Don Corleone, even though Brando was considered too unreliable at the time. Ruddy persisted and made it happen.

"If he believed in somebody and if he told you he had your back, he did. He had it until the very end," said Teller.

Ruddy was the film's sole producer — a rarity in today's Hollywood, but his support system included his assistant Bettye McCartt, who was at his side every step of the way.

Juno Temple plays McCartt and calls it "one of the greatest honors" of her career to bring Ruddy and McCartt's partnership to the screen, a pair who trusted each other implicitly.

"You always hear like, 'Men and women can't be friends.' Yeah, they can. They can be best friends and they can get such incredible (expletive) done together." □

## Playwright Neil Simon's papers go to Library of Congress



American playwright Neil Simon appears during an interview in Seattle, Wash., on Sept. 22, 1994.

Associated Press

By MARK KENNEDY

AP Entertainment Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Dozens of notebooks, scripts, speeches, drafts of letters, artwork and even signed baseballs owned by the

late playwright Neil Simon have been donated to the Library of Congress. The collection offers offering historians and researchers access to the creative process of American theater's

most successful and prolific playwright.

The collection includes about 7,700 items documenting the evolution of Simon's plays and screenplays, including "Barefoot in the Park," "The Sunshine Boys," "Brighton Beach Memoirs" and "Lost in Yonkers."

The donation will be officially announced at a special event with actors Matthew Broderick and Sarah Jessica Parker — both currently starring in a Broadway revival of "Plaza Suite" — and Elaine Joyce, Simon's widow on Monday night at the Library. It will be livestreamed starting at 7 p.m. ET on the Library's YouTube channel.

The cache includes a yellowing first act of "Barefoot

in the Park," plenty of notes for actors or directors, and over a dozen notepads filled with watercolors, drawings and cartoons by Simon. There are also several scripts for shows never completed or produced, such as one titled "The Merry Widows," written for Bette Midler and Whoopi Goldberg.

"The donation of Simon's papers to our nation's library is a treasured addition to our holdings that enhances our performing arts collection as one of the best in the world. It also ensures Simon's legacy is preserved for generations to come," Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden said in a statement.

Simon was nominated for 14 Tony Awards throughout

his career and won three, in addition to a special prize for contribution to the theater. He also won the Pulitzer Prize, the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor and a Kennedy Center honor, as well as having a theater named after him on Broadway. He died in 2018 in New York City.

The donated materials range from hundreds of scripts, notes and outlines for his plays, including handwritten first drafts and multiple drafts of typescripts, to personal notebooks and signed baseballs.

The Library of Congress is already home to the collections of several Broadway icons, including Arthur Laurents, Marvin Hamlisch and Bob Fosse and Gwen Verdon. □



# Cabrera could be the last for a while to reach 3,000 hits

By NOAH TRISTER  
AP Baseball Writer

Miguel Cabrera reached the 3,000-hit mark on a weekend afternoon in front of an adoring crowd at his home ballpark in Detroit. It was a moment worthy of the milestone.

It could also be the last time it happens for a while. In an era of high strikeout totals and low batting averages, there aren't any other players who seem likely to reach 3,000 hits any time soon. In fact, the first few weeks of this season are a reminder of how current trends in baseball could affect which milestones remain in reach for the game's top players.

Among active players, the next man on the career hits list is Robinson Canó with 2,631. Canó had a good season for the New York Mets in the shortened 2020 campaign, but he missed the whole 2021 season serving a drug suspension. Canó turns 40 in October. Among players closer to their primes, 31-year-old Jose Altuve (1,783 hits) could have a shot, but the Houston Astros star hasn't even reached 170 in a season since 2017. That was also the last time he played more than 146 games, and Altuve just went on the injured list with a hamstring problem.



Detroit Tigers designated hitter Miguel Cabrera greets his family after his 3,000th career hit during the first inning of the first baseball game of a doubleheader against the Rockies, Saturday, April 23, 2022, in Detroit.

Associated Press

Part of what helped Cabrera to the milestone was that he reached the big leagues at age 20. The same was true of Tampa Bay star Wander Franco last year.

He has 103 hits in his first 85 games, but even if Franco goes on to have a Hall of Fame career, it'll obviously be a while before has a chance to threaten a milestone like 3,000 hits. The outlook is a little better

for a power mark like 500 homers. Nelson Cruz has 451, and although he's off to a slow start this year, don't write off the 41-year-old Washington Nationals slugger. When the 2008 season ended, Cruz was 28 and had only 22 home runs in his career, so the fact that he's this close to 500 shows how well he has kept hitting them at an advanced age. For pitchers, the 300-win

plateau feels like a pipe dream these days, and even strikeout milestones are no sure thing, since the top starters don't throw as many innings as in the past. Max Scherzer of the Mets and Justin Verlander of the Astros, however, have already surpassed 3,000 strikeouts. Scherzer, 37, is the younger of those two. He struck out 236 last year for the Dodgers, and he's now at 3,043 for his career.

It may be a lot to ask for Scherzer to get to 4,000 — which only four pitchers have ever done — but 3,500 could be realistic, and that would put him in the top 10 all-time.

## TRIVIA TIME

Who are the four pitchers who have reached 4,000 strikeouts?

## LINE OF THE WEEK

Ty France of the Seattle Mariners had five hits, including a three-run homer, in a 13-7 rout of Kansas City on Saturday night. France, who drove in five runs, had the first five-hit game for a Mariners player since 2018.

## COMEBACK OF THE WEEK

The Rays and Red Sox went through some wild swings of emotion Saturday night. Tampa Bay no-hit Boston for nine innings, but the game remained scoreless into the 10th, when Bobby Dalbec led off with an RBI triple for the Red Sox and scored on a sacrifice fly. After two straight strikeouts by the Rays to start the bottom of the inning, Trevor Story's throwing error gave Tampa Bay a run and kept the game going. Kevin Kiermaier followed with a two-run homer to give the Rays a 3-2 win.

## TRIVIA ANSWER

Nolan Ryan, Randy Johnson, Roger Clemens and Steve Carlton. □

# Biden avoids politics in honoring hockey champion Lightning

By STEPHEN WHYNO  
AP Hockey Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joe Biden avoided politics Monday while honoring the NHL's Tampa Bay Lightning for winning the Stanley Cup in each of the past two seasons.

In a rare sports break amid his administration's response to Russia's war in Ukraine, the president cracked jokes about captain Steven Stamkos and referenced first lady Jill Biden's attendance at a vaccination effort at the Lightning's home arena last year. Biden made little mention of other players while talking about the team winning one champi-

onship in an empty building in a quarantined bubble and another in a packed house at home in Tampa. Russian players Andrei Vasilevskiy, Nikita Kucherov and Mikhail Sergachev attended the White House and shared photos on social media. There were no noticeable absences and a handful of players from the Lightning's 2020 championship team who had departed or retired made appearances.

Just for this occasion, the team made a third trip to the nation's capital in eight months after already visiting the Washington Capitals twice this season. The Lightning flew Sunday night

after playing at the Florida Panthers and were set to return home before facing the Columbus Blue Jackets on Tuesday in one of their final games of the regular season before the playoffs begin next week.

Despite the Lightning winning the Stanley Cup three times — in 2004, 2020 and 2021 — it was the organization's first time visiting a sitting president at the White House. The 2004-05 NHL lockout prevented that year's team from going, and the pandemic delayed this opportunity until nine months after the second of these back-to-back championships. Stamkos, who is Canadian,



President Joe Biden poses for a photo after speaking during an event to celebrate the Tampa Bay Lightning's 2020 and 2021 Stanley Cup championships at the White House, Monday, April 25, 2022, in Washington.

Associated Press

said it was "a long time coming." He deferred to American Ryan McDonagh, a

Minnesota native, to speak on behalf of the team at the ceremony. □



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## Deion Sanders highlights HBCU prospects ahead of NFL draft

By **ROB MAADDI**  
**AP Pro Football Writer**

Deion Sanders did his part to make sure NFL teams don't overlook players from historically Black colleges in this week's draft.

The Jackson State coach and Pro Football Hall of Famer released his "Prime Prospects" on Monday, featuring 16 players from 12 HBCUs. Last year, not one HBCU player was drafted.

"My prediction is five to seven, maybe 10 guys that should be drafted," Sanders told The Associated Press. "We have at least 15, 16 truly draftable guys, more that I feel like probably are going to get drafted. Exposure helps. What's going on and what's translating today in HBCU football is helping tremendously. We're getting a lot of shine."

Neon Deion has helped provide a spotlight on HBCU players since leaving his analyst duties at NFL Network and taking over at Jackson State in 2020. Sanders was the Southwestern Athletic Conference Coach of the Year in 2021 after leading the Tigers to an 11-2 record. "I'm not thinking about legacy. I don't care about that. I care about winning games and changing lives and provoking change in whatever I touch," Sanders said. "Eddie George has done a wonderful job at Tennessee State. Hue Jackson coming into Grambling, raising the bar there is going to be tremendous. Willie Simmons at (Florida A&M) and some of the other notable persons, Coach (Fred) McNair at Alcorn, are some guys that



**Jackson State football coach Deion Sanders speaks to the fans prior to the Jackson State's Blue and White Spring football game, an NCAA college football contest, Sunday, April 24, 2022, in Jackson, Miss.**

**Associated Press**

can really coach the game and they're able to take this thing to another level. I'm thankful and pleased that I have Aflac partnering with me to bring shine, so to speak, and shed light on what we're doing, especially with this Prime Prospects. It's unbelievable." Aflac's new advertisement, named "Believe," features Sanders and will air during the draft. The campaign reflects Aflac's "Close the Gap" initiative, which centers on educating, supporting and advocating for those underserved and overlooked. "We're doing a better job of the exposure," Sanders said. "We're often overlooked

and under exposed, which is something that we're trying to tackle right now. ... We're trying our best to bring light to all those. It's just absurd to me. I know pro football. I worked at the NFL Network for almost two decades and played for 14 years. I know what a professional looks like, and there are a multitude of these young men that can play the game at the next level, if given the opportunity. When you don't see a player visually, it's hard to understand that he's equipped and he could participate. If you didn't see the players from Alabama on television every darn week, I'm pretty sure

the number that they're circulating into the NFL would cease a bit. You never see these kids and you don't understand what they're capable of, and I'm telling you they can play this game." In 2021, Aflac donated \$75,000 to the Jackson State University athletic department for professional development, as well as \$25,000 as a supporting partner of Sanders' football camp. Aflac will donate an additional \$100,000 in 2022 to help Sanders continue his mission of mentoring young athletes. His "Prime Prospects" are: Florida A&M safety Antwan Collier and offensive line-

man Keenan Forbes; Alabama A&M quarterback Aqeel Glass and wide receivers Dee Anderson and Zabrian Moore; Jackson State defensive end/linebacker James Houston and wide receiver Keith Corbin; Norfolk State defensive lineman De'Shaan Dixon; Alabama State running back Ezra Gray; NC A&T running back Jah-Maine Martin; Mississippi Valley State linebacker Jerry Garner; Fayetteville State defensive back Joshua Williams; Southern University wide receiver Marquis McClain; Fort Valley State wide receiver Shemar Bridges; Bowie State defensive back Tevin Singleton; Virginia State safety Will Adams. "I'm happy in the role that God has chosen for me," Sanders said. "I'm happy to be where I am, and I tell people all the time I know I'm employed at Jackson State, but I'm working for the whole HBCU."

The inaugural Legacy Bowl held in February in New Orleans gave top football players from HBCU schools a new level of exposure to pro scouts and executives. But Sanders has another idea for a Bowl game.

"I would love to namesake an All-Star Game that HBCUs play against all the other schools," Sanders said. "I don't like when you just have an HBCU game we play against each other. Let's play against all the other talent. I would like for us to put together our All-Star team and we play one of the Bowl games that they play after the season." □